

REMARKS

Applicants cancel claims 1 and 4. Claims 2-3 and 5-8 remain pending in the application.

Applicants amend claims 2-3, 5-6, and 8 for clarification. No new matter has been added.

Claims 3-8 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter of the invention.

With respect to claim 3, the Examiner objected to the second use of "in which are" for not being clear on what "are stored." Applicants amend claim 3 to clarify both uses of "in which are" recited in the claim.

The Examiner also objected to the term "control method" recited in claims 3, 5, and 6 for being unclear. Applicants amend claims 3, 5, and 6 to clearly recite "an operation control."

With respect to claim 4, the Examiner objected to the term "conversion table" for lack of antecedent basis and for being unclear. Applicants cancel claim 4.

With respect to claim 5, the Examiner objected to the term "packet existence information" for being unclear. Applicants amend claim 5 to clearly recite "packet existence notification."

In view of the foregoing, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner withdraw the § 112, ¶ 2 rejection.

Claims 1 and 2 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as unpatentable over U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2002/0097733 to Yamamoto in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,421,350 to Szurkowski et al. Applicants cancel claim 1 and amend claim 2 to depend from claim 3. Applicants respectfully submit that claim 2 is, therefore, patentable over the cited references.

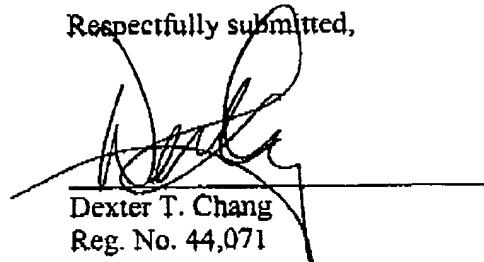
Serial No. 10/723,993
Page 6 of 6

Applicants appreciate the Examiner's implicit finding that the additional references made of record, but not applied, do not render the claims of the present application unpatentable, whether these references are considered alone or in combination with others.

In view of the remarks set forth above, this application is in condition for allowance which action is respectfully requested. However, if for any reason the Examiner should consider this application not to be in condition for allowance, the Examiner is respectfully requested to telephone the undersigned attorney at the number listed below prior to issuing a further Action.

Any fee due with this paper may be charged to Deposit Account No. 50-1290.

Respectfully submitted,



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